

# Madison PTA/PAC Meeting Minutes

December 21, 2015

## Welcome and Introductions

Miranda Gilbert, Julie Carpenter, Rhiannon K., Lissa S., Denise H., Jody B., Amanda J., Terryll B., Billi R., Hibo W., Jaclyn S., Leah O., Erin W., Alyssa B., Karen K., Kirsten W., Heidi U., Susan C., Dan S.

## Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) team

Susan Chwalek, Alissa Keil, Alyssa Bray, BriAnne Hern, Catherine Frisbie, Denise Huebsch, Derek Ertl, Erin Wurzberger, Jamie Conway, Jody Barth, Julie Carpenter, Leah Oik, Lindsay Rynda.

Susan Chwalek, Madison School Psychologist, gave an overview of SWPBIS (School Wide Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports.) The goal of this program is to make schools more effective and equitable learning environments. While PBIS is not a cure-all, it can improve the school and classroom climate by providing a common language building wide, modeling expectations, and giving 'good job' blue Mustang slips to students who display positive behaviors. We can't assume kids come to school knowing how to behave- we need to teach expectations. This is a method of integrating academic and behavioral initiatives.

With PBIS, schools focus on the behavior we want from kids rather than the behavior we don't want. From District website: "In the past, school-wide discipline has focused mainly on reacting to specific student misbehavior by implementing punishment-based strategies including reprimands, loss of privileges, office referrals, suspensions, and expulsions... Teaching behavioral expectations and rewarding students for following them is a much more positive approach than waiting for misbehavior to occur before responding. The purpose of school-wide PBIS is to establish a climate in which appropriate behavior is the norm."

This is a multi-tiered strategy: Tier 1 = all students; Tier 2 = some students, targeted intervention; Tier 3 = individualized, intensive intervention. When there are violations, the PBIS flow chart and code of conduct determine staff response. Staff tries to be proactive so behavior is not repeated. Staff responses are data driven. For instance, staff noticed there was an increase in poor behavior at 10am. It was determined that a change in procedure was necessary. The change was adding a snack break at 10am. This change resulted in fewer office referrals in the mornings.

Current statistics at Madison:

87% of our students are in the green zone (0-1 office referrals this school year)

7% of our students are in the yellow zone (2-5 office referrals this school year)

5% of our students are in the red zone (6 or more office referrals this school year)

So about 96 students are in the 2-6+ range of office referrals over the past 4 months.

How should a parent react when their child reports a negative event from school? First validate them, "How did that make you feel?" We want children to feel safe and to have a voice. When unexpected behaviors happen, students are asked to 'MindUP (<http://thehawnfoundation.org/mindup/>).' Deep breaths, calm down and then process the situation. We are building empathy and compassions in children for classmates who are having challenges. One parent suggested asking your child, "Tell me 2 positives and 1 challenge from your day." Or, "tell me 1 thing that made you laugh today." Or use the Madison motto as your guide: "Tell me how you were Kind, Safe and Responsible today."

Additional information available at:

<http://stcloudisd742.mn.schoolwebpages.com/education/dept/dept.php?sectiondetailid=18906&>;  
<http://www.pbis.org/> & Cheryl Glad, District PBIS Coordinator, 253-9333 extension 1222.

### Principal/Vice Principal report

District leaders met with staff today in an open forum to discuss safety. Six areas of concern were expressed. Next steps are problem solving and an action plan. Each building will have these forums. Hopefully this will result in changes that help teachers feel more comfortable in their work environments.

Students are leading 'Morning Live' broadcasts which are shown on classroom smart boards. This is the school's new format for morning announcements.

In January there will be a new master schedule. Note on school website: "Beginning January 4th, your child may experience a change to his/her daily schedule. Some of these changes may include the time of their lunch, recess, and/or specials. We are excited to share that recess will now be classroom teacher led! Our cafeteria will be monitored by six supervisors who will work with each of the grade level's lunch periods. Students will still have outdoor recess each day the weather cooperates, and will now have a 30 minute lunch period. Specials will remain on a three day rotation of art, music, and physical education for 50 minutes per day. You will find the updated schedule below..."

<http://stcloud742.schoolwires.net/cms/lib010/MN01909691/Centricity/Domain/8/Madison%20Schedule%20for%20Website.pdf>

AVID's mission is to close the achievement gap by preparing all students for college readiness and success in a global society. While this is the second year for AVID at Madison, only some 4th and 5th grade classes are using this curriculum. There is a summer training for teachers so new teachers are not utilizing this program with their students. "AVID Elementary incorporates: Student Success Skills, Organizational Skills, WICOR Lessons (instruction on writing to learn, inquiry, collaboration, organization, and readings), and Partnerships." Information at: <http://www.avid.org/what-is-avid.ashx>

Enrichment activities offered: Knowledge Bowl was a fall activity. This is an academic quiz competition for teams of 4-6 students. Battle of the Books might happen in February/March. This is a reading incentive program where students read specific books and form teams to test their knowledge about what they read. In the past this has been a program for 3rd-5th graders organized by the Media Center staff. Spelling Bee is a winter activity. District Spelling Bee is January 28. US Academic Triathlon is a problem-solving competition for teams of 5th graders. The season is currently underway. Some classes got the opportunity to participate in the Hour of Code computer programming event. Since this was optional, not all teachers participated.

### Teacher/Staff report

Madison is hosting a Family Night on Tuesday, January 12, 2016, 5:30-7:00pm. Focus will be on technology.

District 742 is hosting another community wide book club. This time it's a 3 district-1 book event. Each elementary school family will receive a copy of the selected book. This year's book will be announced on January 29.

Budget/banking- Billi Rudningen, PTA Treasurer

Monthly expenses and income report shared.

### Career exploration - Lissa Staples

Lissa has been asked by administration to organize career information sessions during 5th grade lunch (12:55-1:25pm). The format has yet to be decided. If you're willing to donate 30 minutes, please consider visiting Madison and sharing details about your job. Contact Lissa at [madisonptapac@gmail.com](mailto:madisonptapac@gmail.com) if you're interested in hearing more about this opportunity.

### Open floor

SCSU hosts an annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr breakfast. The 2016 event is Monday, January 18, 7-10am. Sponsored by Community Anti-Racism Education Initiative (C.A.R.E). Additional information:

<http://www.stcloudstate.edu/care/mlk-breakfast/default.aspx>

Hibo Warsame, Madison Special Ed Para, commented that she is trying to increase Somali parents' connection to Madison. Some parents may need more understanding since they didn't go to school in the US. She stated that there are cultural and educational differences.

### Volunteer needs: email [madisonptapac@gmail.com](mailto:madisonptapac@gmail.com) to sign up!

Someone to do the bulletin board for February (thanks to Hibo)

People to bring food for teachers for the first night of Spring conferences, **Tuesday Feb. 9**

PTA sponsored Movie night **Friday, February 12**

Spring picture day helpers on **Wednesday, February 17**

### Thank yous:

**Fall conference potluck-** Rhiannon K., Heidi U., Kirsten W., Sonia D., Sarah J., Tara F-L., Evan S., Alicia C., Lissa S., Miranda G., Jennifer N., Kristen R., Andi B., Billi R., Karen K for making the night special for the teachers who appreciated it so very much!  
(Forgive me if I forgot your name, your participation was appreciated)

**Game night-** Marcus P., Karen K., Coco W., Kathy F., Yannis Q., Alicia and Matt C., Miranda G., Julie C., along with the other teachers and staff who volunteered to make the night a success! (Forgive me if I forgot your name, your participation was appreciated)

**Winter gear-** A huge shout out to **Heidi Unglaub** for making connections with community people to provide winter clothing for Madison families in need. Heidi secured a \$250 mini grant to purchase winter gear. Karen Kruse has always been a big help with this and had a good amount of items to get started, so thank you as always! We would love to make this an annual event for our families. Thanks to everyone involved.

**[Next PTA/PAC meeting is January 25. Hope you can join us!](#)**